



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memo To: Board of Selectmen
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager
Date: July 8, 2016
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

Warrants:

- Payroll: FY 16 \$ 116,936.71
 FY 17 14,522.29
- Expense Warrant:
 FY 16: \$ 129,243.18
 FY 17: 55,151.67

For Your Information/Follow Up:

- We are awaiting news from the State house on the FY 17 budget given the news that state revenue projections are down significantly. The Governor has until the 10th of the month to approve, reject or reduce the budget proposed by the conference committee. The conference committee budget includes our local aid numbers remained as proposed, and the earmark for the defibrillators is also still planned.
- This time of year also begins the schedule of summer paving of roads in earnest, with the milling completed this week and paving to be done next week. The schedule is:
 - Crockett Road – rubber chip seal in July 25th
 - Westborough Road from Southborough Rd to the Town line – July 11/12
 - Grove Street – RR tracks to Mendon Street – July 13th.
 - North Street from Westborough to Mechanic July 14th.
 - VFW parking lot – rubber chip seal – July 25th
- I wish to remind everyone of the water restrictions that are in place as they are every summer. With the hot dry weather we have been pumping about 1.1 million gallons of water per day, which is very close to our State mandated water management act limit of 1.2 million. Please remember that no outdoor watering is allowed except by hand during the day 9 AM – 5 PM). We've stepped up an awareness campaign with an update to the website, a message sign, a Code Red call to all water customers, and letters to those we find watering during these hours. If people can set their sprinklers to water during the evening or night this will spread out water usage and better enable the wells to recharge. However, if we don't have some sustained rain in the coming weeks, we may need to ask people to take additional conservation measures.
- As you know there has been an increase in home construction over the last year. The Code Enforcement department reports 48 new homes, a number we have not seen in at

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least 7-8 years. Not knowing when building would begin we had budgeted a conservative \$122,000 for permit revenue and have brought in just over \$248,000.

- Included with my report is an update on grants received over the past five years. FY 16 was very productive on this front, with over \$532,000 awarded. As you may recall the large awards were the federal AFG grant for new SCBA units for the Fire Department, and \$170,633 from the Green Community competitive grant program to continue implementing our initiatives to reduce energy use by 20% over five years.
- We received five quotes for the demolition of the building at #2 Grove Street. The lowest responsive quote was \$22,800 which we will discuss at the next meeting with regard to funding the work. The contractor tells me it is about a six week process to conduct the permitting process, and then one day to do the demolition.
- Next Tuesday Chiefs Bradley, Goodale and I will be at the Upton Center for "Pie Day", as we've been asked to be judges for the best pie competition. It should be a fun activity, starting at 12:30 PM!
- Construction continues on the new upper parking lot at Kiwanis Beach. The basic road layout has been installed and the parking lot area is taking shape. Our main concern for cost overruns was additional ledge but we have not found any so work is progressing smoothly.
- We received one copy of the "Greater Metro West Economic Profile 2016" prepared by the Metro West Economic Research Center at Framingham State University. If you would like to review it, please see Sandy and we'll keep it on file in our office.